APR 1 8 2006 W

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

The Application of:

Christoph SCHMIDT et al.

Examiner: STITZEL, David Paul

Serial No.: 10/608,563

Group Art Unit: 1616

Filed: 06/30/03

Title: FIVE-LAYERED PIGMENTS

AMENDMENT AND REPLY

Mail Stop Amendment Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the Office action dated October 18, 2005, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 4 of this paper.

DOCKET NO.: MERCK-2715

1